



**LEGISLATION AND PRESERVATION TOOLS SUBCOMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

Boston City Hall Boston, MA, 02201  
Held virtually via Zoom

**JUNE 10, 2025**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Lydia Lowe, Margaret Dyson, Chelsea Blanchard, Amanda Zettel, Julian Viviescas for Council President Ruthzee Louijeune, Kathy Kottaridis

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Kenzie Bok, Jean Luc Pierite, Senator Mike Rush,

**STAFF PRESENT:** Genesis Pimentel, Commemoration Commission Manager; Eileen Michaud, Planner II; Dorothy Clark, Assistant Survey Director

**PUBLIC/PRESS PRESENT:** Matthew Dickey, Molly Donahue, Alison Pultinas, Frank O'Brien, Jay Paget

A full recording of the meeting is available on [boston.gov/commemoration-commission](https://boston.gov/commemoration-commission)

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**SESSION BEGINS - 2:03 PM**

**I. WELCOME**

- a. Genesis Pimentel welcomed attendees.

**II. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- a. Meeting minutes were held off.

**III. SQUARES AND STREETS Q & A SESSION**

- a. Eileen Michaud provided an update on Squares & Streets, noting that Roslindale Square was the first to be completed and adopted. She highlighted common community feedback themes, including concerns about displacement, the need for streamlined permitting for local businesses, addressing vacant commercial spaces, and supporting both large-scale and incremental housing growth. Michaud also mentioned the recently released Anti-Displacement Action Plan and Toolkit, which includes both existing and new tools to mitigate displacement over the next two years.
- b. Article 85 and its function as an article of the Zoning Code were discussed and the use of demolition delays were discussed.



- c. The group discussed strategies for protecting historically and culturally significant buildings in Logan and Cleary Square, focusing on zoning and growth management. Michaud explained that while demolition delay is a critical tool, it's often a last resort and emphasized the need for early planning and multiple preservation tools to incentivize appropriate treatment of historic assets. She noted that growth is happening unpredictably, and current zoning doesn't always support desired outcomes for historic structures.
- d. Michaud discussed the process of mapping new zoning, particularly focusing on how to preserve historic fabric while allowing for appropriate growth and development. Michaud emphasized the importance of collaborative planning to identify areas for transformative growth while minimizing impact on significant existing structures. The group agreed to continue this conversation through future planning exercises and mapping efforts, with the goal of incorporating these principles into zoning documents.

#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- a. Public comments included questions and comments around Article 85, how Planning addresses displacement, how community feedback is implemented, and how historic structures can be protected in the process of developing Squares & Streets.

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT - 2:55 PM**

- a. The meeting ended.